This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1   Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of processing active wireless device
2   statistics, the method comprising:
3   receiving statistics ~~on~~ indicating the number of active wireless devices in at
4   least one communications cell;
5   estimating the number of people in a geographic region of interest from ~~the~~
6   ~~received statistics on~~ the number of active wireless devices indicated by the received
7   statistics.

1   Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein receiving statistics includes:
2   receiving information from a plurality of different communications cells, said
3   information including at a first count corresponding to the number of active devices
4   in a first communications cell and a second count corresponding to the number of
5   active devices in a second communications cell.

1   Claim 3 (original): The method of claim 2, wherein estimating the number of people
2   in a geographic region of interest includes:
3   correlating the first and second counts corresponding to the first and
4   second communications cells, respectively, to the geographic area of interest to
5   generate a set of target area statistics including an estimate of the number of active
6   wireless devices in the geographic area of interest.

1   Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 3, wherein estimating the number of people
2   in a geographic region of interest includes:
3   performing an extrapolation operation on the estimate of the number of active
4   wireless devices in the geographic area of interest to produce the estimate of the
5   number of people in the geographic area of interest.

1   Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 4, further comprising:

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2   generating a report including the estimate of the number of people in

3   the geographic area of interest; and

4   outputting said report.

1   Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 4, further comprising:

2   predicting the distribution of the estimated number of people in a

3   geographic region of interest from the received statistics on the number of active

4   wireless devices.

1   Claim 7 (original): The method of claim 6, wherein active device counts from

2   different wireless communications cells each at least partially overlapping said

3   geographic area of interest are used in predicting the distribution of the estimated

4   number of people.

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1   Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 6, further comprising:

2   generating a report including the estimate of the number of people in

3   the geographic area of interest and information on the predicted distribution of the

4   estimated number of people.

1   Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 2, wherein the first count is a count of a first

2   type of wireless device and said second count is a count of a second type of wireless

3   device which is different from said first type.

1   Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 9, wherein the first type of wireless device

2   is a cell phone and the second type of wireless device is a personal data assistant.

1   Claim 11 (currently amended): ~~The method of claim 9, further comprising:~~

2   <u>A method of processing active wireless device statistics, the method</u>

3   <u>comprising:</u>

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4   receiving statistics on the number and type of active wireless devices in at
5   least one communications cell;
6   estimating the number of people in a geographic region of interest from the
7   received statistics on the number of active wireless devices; and
8   predicting characteristics of the people in the geographic region of interest
9   from the type and number of active wireless devices in the geographic region of
10   interest.

1   Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of:
2   generating a report including the estimate of the number of people in
3   the geographic area of interest and information on the predicted characteristics of the
4   people.

1   Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said step of receiving statistics
2   on the number of active wireless devices includes:
3   receiving active wireless device statistics corresponding to different
4   points in time; and
5   generating, from received active wireless device statistics
6   corresponding to at least two different points in time, information on the flow of
7   traffic in the geographic region of interest.

1   Claim 14 (currently amended): A method of generating a traffic flow report
2   indicating the flow of people in a geographic area, the method comprising the steps
3   of:
4   collecting active wireless device statistics from a communications cell
5   over a period of time; and
6   detecting changes in the collected active wireless device statistics; and

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7   generating a report including ~~traffic~~ <u>information on the</u> flow <u>of people through said</u>

8   <u>geographic area</u> ~~information~~ based on detected changes in the collected active

9   wireless device statistics.

1   Claim 15 (currently amended): The method of claim 14, wherein the detected

2   changes include at least one of an increase and a decrease in the number of active

3   wireless devices in a communications cell.

1   Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 14, wherein the detected changes include

2   changes in the identity of the active wireless devices being serviced by the cell.

1   Claim 17 (original): An apparatus for estimating the number of people in a

2   geographic region, the apparatus comprising:

3   an interface for receiving an active wireless device count from at least

4   one communications cell;

5   means for estimating based on the received active wireless device

6   count the number of people in a geographic region including at least a portion of said

7   communication cell.

1   Claim 18 (original): The apparatus of claim 17,

2   wherein said interface receives wireless device count information

3   including a first count corresponding to a first communications cell and a second

4   count from a second communication cell; and

5   wherein means for estimating includes:

6   means for correlating the first and second counts corresponding to the first and

7   second communications cells, respectively, to a geographic area of interest to

8   generate a set of target area statistics including an estimate of the number of active

9   wireless devices in the geographic area of interest.

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1   Claim 19 (original): The apparatus of claim 18, wherein said means for estimating
2   further includes:
3   means for performing an extrapolation operation on the estimate of the number of
4   active wireless devices in the geographic area of interest to produce the estimate of
5   the number of people in the geographic area of interest.

1   Claim 20 (currently amended): A wireless communications system, the system
2   comprising:
3   a plurality of wireless communications centers, each wireless
4   communications center collecting statistics on the number of active wireless devices
5   being serviced at a point in time;
6   a processing center coupled to the plurality of wireless
7   communications centers, the processing center receiving from said wireless
8   communication centers the statistics on the number of active wireless devices being
9   serviced, the processing center including:
10   means for estimating the number of people in a geographic region of
11   interest from the received statistics on the number of active wireless devices being
12   serviced by said wireless communications centers.

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